Appln. No.: 09/542,460

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 23 are presented for consideration, with Claim 1 being independent.

An editorial change has been made to Claim 1 to correct a typographical error.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.

office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott D. Malpede/

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